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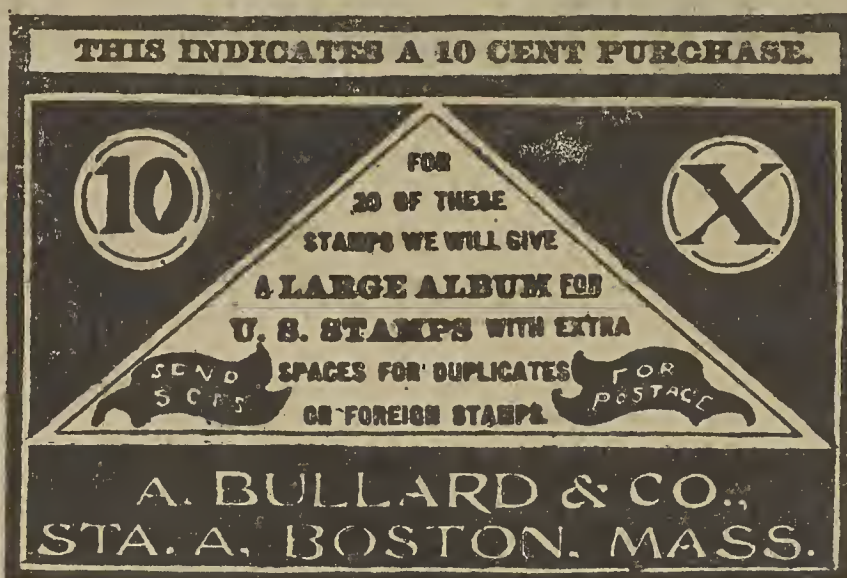


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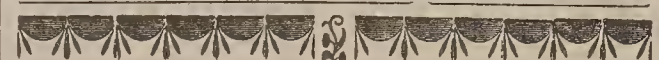
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VOL. VI. A. BULLARD & CO., 97 PEMBROKE ST. BOSTON, MASS., AUGUST, 1900. 35 AND 50 CENTS A YEAR, IN ADVANCE. NO. 8



Written for THE YOUTH'S REALM.
THE ORACLE OF FATE.



HE prince learned that his father's throne was again in danger because of the pretender Urso who had escaped from prison and secretly collected a large band of followers, all wild, dishonest, blood-thirsty fellows like their leader. The

purpose of this hastily-collected band of outlaws was to take the old king by surprise before he had sufficient time to collect an army large enough to oppose the invading horde, or before the prince thought up another scheme to protect his father and his loyal followers from this last desperate effort to drive the rightful heir from his throne and establish the usurper upon it.

The news of the plan struck the prince like a thunderbolt. There had been no warning previously, no apprehension of what was taking place, no leakage whatever of the facts connected with the plot. Tomorrow or the day following five thousand armed men would meet, and of course overpower, the few hundred guards who alone protected the person of the king in times of peace. The prince wanted a week to prepare for the enemy. In that time he could rally about him ten thousand supporters, and the throne would be safe. But time was not to be had. The enemy were on the march, were in the vicinity of the Oracle of Fate, as a courier had announced to the king, and would soon reach the castle. What, therefore, could the prince do?

The Oracle of Fate, which was about ten miles from the castle, was the rendezvous of all great rulers, generals and men who had important business of any kind to transact, for miles around. Before undertaking anything pretentious the oracle had to be consulted and its good will secured. This was done by making an offering of money through a crevice in the rock and by listening to a soft, spirit-like voice, which was heard inside the trunk of a tree when the ear was put close to the bark and everything was still around the spot. The voice was like the human voice coming from a great distance, and spoke intelligently upon any subject proposed,

and gave the desired information to all coming to hear it. To the superstitious it was the most sacred thing in the kingdom;

had often visited the spot with his father, and pressing his face close to the old oak had heard the "strange small voice" as distinctly as if it had been that of his father calling him up in the morning from the floor below. Holes had been bored into the tree by sacrilegious persons to get a view of the genii or to discover the humbug, but with no result. The ledge at the side of the oak, in the crevice of which the offering was put, had been examined and burrowed under, but it revealed no mystery. It was certain, however, that there was a mystery connected with the Oracle of Fate which even the most mistrustful ones could not deny.

Without losing any time the prince, as soon as he heard of the intentions of Urso the pretender, mounted the swiftest horse in the royal stable and galloped off in the direction



THE OLD MAN WENT FLYING DOWN THE HILL SEATED ON A SLED.

to the skeptical the most perplexing; to the sight-seer, the most curious; to the timid, the most weird and terrible.

When the prince was a very young child he

of the oracle without a single attendant. Leaping fences and rivulets, cutting across rough pastures and wood lots covered with snow, for it was in early winter, he arrived in

the vicinity of the oracle in a surprisingly short time and before the sun had sunk behind the western hills. Hitching his horse to a tree in the forest he finished the rest of his journey (which was all up-hill) on foot. Far in the distance he saw the army of Urso approaching. They were marching towards the oracle where the prince was going himself. When the latter reached the sacred oak he thrust a gold coin in the crack of the rock and heard it rattle down through the rocks as it tried to reach the bottom, evidently some distance below. Without the gold offering no voice was ever heard in the oak.

The prince then spoke as follows, his face close to the tree trunk. "O sacred Oracle of Fate, to thee cometh Prince Minusias to be guided at this evil hour when Urso, the pretender, with a large force, is about to attack my father's castle."

"Your father, the king, deserves to rule no longer, for he seldom visits the oracle for advice and is sparing of his gold at the sacred tree. You too are a disbeliever. Urso wisely consults me often. Surrender to him at once and prevent any bloodshed, for the spilling of blood will be to no purpose. Urso will surely win." Then the oracle stopped speaking and everything was quiet around.

The prince however was not discouraged by this unexpected advice, but felt like attacking the oracle, to put himself in fighting trim for the enemy when it should come along. Examining the rock more closely than ever before he discovered a hole drilled into it close to the ground and beneath some bushes which completely hid it from the passer-by. Believing it to be a key hole he took from his pocket a skeleton key which would fit almost any lock and inserted it in the hole. The lock turned! Then he pushed with all his might against the rock and it swung open, for it proved to be a hinged door opening into a room cut in the solid rock. The prince, elated over his discovery, lost no time in descending into the cave, for it was already getting dark and the room had but one window—a small hole cut in the rock where it would not be observed from the outside. No sooner had he got fairly in than a figure sprang from underneath a table, and with an object like a box in its hand, jumped out the door and ran down the road. The prince, who followed the retreating figure saw in a moment that it was that of an old man, and that in his hands he carried a sled. The prince would have overtaken him had the old man not seated himself on his sled and began to coast down the long steep hill before the prince had time to lay hands on him.

The human oracle had been discovered but so swiftly did he glide out of sight over the steep icy road that it seemed like an apparition to the prince. The latter went back to the cave to examine it more closely. In one corner, beneath the chink in the rock, he saw a pot of gold coins. Near it was a speaking tube which was fitted into a root of the oak which grew by the side of the ledge. A hole had evidently been bored into the trunk of the tree to carry the sound to the listener. The whole thing was a sham, but the prince was the first one to discover it.

While he was busy examining the cave he heard voices of men nearby, and looking out recognized his old enemy Urso with several attendants. They were evidently coming to the oracle for advice. No sooner had the prince closed the stone door and put his ear to the tube than a coin dropped into the pot and he heard the stentorian voice of Urso enquiring advice as to the best time to commence the attack.

"Tomorrow is St. Erich's day. Must we wait until the following day before making the attack?"—impatiently questioned the leader of the rebels.

"The entire week, commencing tomorrow, is a holy week. He who spills blood during the next seven days shall never prosper on a

throne," shouted the prince through the speaking tube.

When Urso heard this he was greatly disappointed and replied that he had not provisions enough to feed his large army for a week nor money enough to buy food for that length of time. But the prince had a scheme. He told Urso (through the tube of course) that if he would come to the oracle again at midnight he would find a pot containing enough gold to purchase a month's supply of food. Then Urso agreed to hold off his attack for a week. The prince would now have time to collect an army.

Just before midnight the prince left right at the foot of the tree the pot of gold which he had found in the cave, and in a short time it was taken away by the pretender. Then the prince, under cover of darkness, rode back to the castle to acquaint his father with what had happened.

The next day preparations were begun for war. Each day hundreds of men from far and near enlisted on the king's side. At the end of the week twenty thousand men stood back of the monarch, so that when the holy week was over and Urso was ready to make his charge, he stood no chance whatever of taking the castle, and finally had to disperse his men and flee into the mountains of the north.

So ends the story of The Oracle of Fate, but further adventures of the Prince are to be told later.

STAINED GLASS EFFECTS.

Beautiful stained glass effects can be obtained at an extremely low cost with the help of simple materials, a few tools and a little good taste and mechanical ingenuity. The materials required are putty, white lead and bits of glass and broken china. The Omaha Bee, which describes the process, says that the one tool necessary to work properly with is a first class diamond pointed glass cutter, with nippers at the side to break the glass after making the incision.

Following are the directions given in the journal quoted:

The window to be filled in should first have a pane of clear glass inserted as a protecting basis upon which to work. Measure this accurately and cut a paper the exact size. On the paper draw a design in charcoal. Duplicate this paper and cut out each portion of the design representing the bits of glass. In a mosaic window this is only necessary for the figure which forms the central motive around which the irregular mosaic pieces are grouped almost at haphazard. Ribbons are about the easiest things to insert in such a window, but, whatever the design, it should be white or some rather opaque glass, so it will stand out in bold relief from the varied colors and shapes surrounding it. When the bits of paper corresponding to the design are cut, lay them on the wrong side of the glass to be cut and mark the pattern with a piece of soap.

A pretty design for bits of mosaic may be obtained by taking a large piece of glass and giving it one quick blow in the center, thus causing cracks to radiate therefrom, producing a sort of star-like formation. Jewels may also be made from thick chunks of glass by hammering them into irregular shapes of the desired size, but the ready made jewels can be bought at any glass manufacturer's.

When the glass is ready to put in place, lay the paper design under the glass already in the window frame, which, of course, has been removed and

laid flat on a table. Then group the pieces corresponding to the design over the latter and work in the background to fit. This should be in as large pieces as possible, in vertical lines, or brick-like divisions. Around each window should be a border one inch wide and cut in lengths of perhaps four to five inches, which gives character to the edge and frames in the design with better effect. This border should also be laid in place first.

When the pieces to be fastened down are laid in place, the leading begins. This is done with a mixture of putty and white lead, about the same consistency as the former when used for putting in window panes. In fact, the drier it is the better, as great care must be taken not to let the oil ooze out between the bits of glass and the foundation pane. Only the best linseed oil obtained from a painter should be used in this work; common oil will not do. Short lengths of putty should be rolled out about the size of an earthworm and pressed into place between the bits of glass. Then when a certain portion has been cemented it should be allowed to dry for three or four days before continuing the process, as the pieces sometimes slip if handled too soon. Care should be taken in cutting to fit them as perfectly as possible, but if there be any variation let the pieces be rather small than otherwise, as the putty will fill up the little spaces between the edges. When all is complete, it will be quite like the real leaded glass, but if desired the putty may be painted a leaden hue.



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ADDRESS—**REALM, Station A, Boston, Mass.**

How the Chipmunks Were Vindicated.

A neat flower bed was under the cook's window. It was there chiefly because there was no other place for it. While clearing and building are going on you cannot have flower beds round in the way. Many things were put in this bed to wait for the real garden next year.

There was a California rose (which is not a rose at all, but an annual vine) cheerfully adapting itself to circumstances. There were some bignonias, four of them, which because they blossom in the old wood, were being encouraged to grow very high ready for next summer. There were two wistarias-seeming a little uncertain whether to grow or not in the new soil. There was a Paul Neyron rose.

And besides these there were some morning glories that had climbed astonishingly and were all aglow with the national colors and a row of seedling acacias to be transplanted next spring, and the odd corners were filled with portulacca. The flower bed at the new cabin in the clearing was considered a great success, and many hopes grew with the busy green leaves.

Some of the little forest people were so friendly as to seem a trifle impertinent. They ran all over the house, perched upon our laps and shoulders, came to meals and laughed at the cook when she cried, "Shoo!" or "Scat!" which she often did.

"Well," she said to the large boy, "these chipmunks have come over to be friends."

"They're no harm," said the large boy.

One of the smallest was especially funny and afraid of nothing. She called him "Jimmy" and fed him gems and bits of apple.

One morning she leaned out the window to count the morning glories, as was her habit. Two of the morning glory buds were bitten off, lying forlornly on the ground, and the end of the vine was gone entirely.

A chipmunk was running up the wall, peeping at her mischievously with his bright eyes, saucy as usual. Another was pausing, head down, on a cedar tree, with a biscuit mushroom in his mouth.

"Now, did you do that?" asked the cook. "That was mean. I have been very polite to you. What do you want of flowers anyway? You've just wasted them." The chipmunks ran away, chattering.

The cook told the large boy. "Chipmunks don't do such things," he said.

"Of course it doesn't matter much. Morning glories are annuals, and the summer's 'most gone," she answered. But she was not convinced.

On Sunday morning she looked out again. "Oh," she cried, "all the little locust trees are eaten. It is too bad."

At breakfast the chipmunks came into her lap and perched on the edge of the table, but the cook covered the hot gems with a thick towel and looked at them with cold reproach.

"No," she said sternly. "I refuse to feed you until I know whether you ate those little trees. I will find out. If you did not, I will beg your pardon and be friendly. If you did, you will have in me an enemy." Jimmy did not mind it much. He grabbed a potato peeling and ran away.

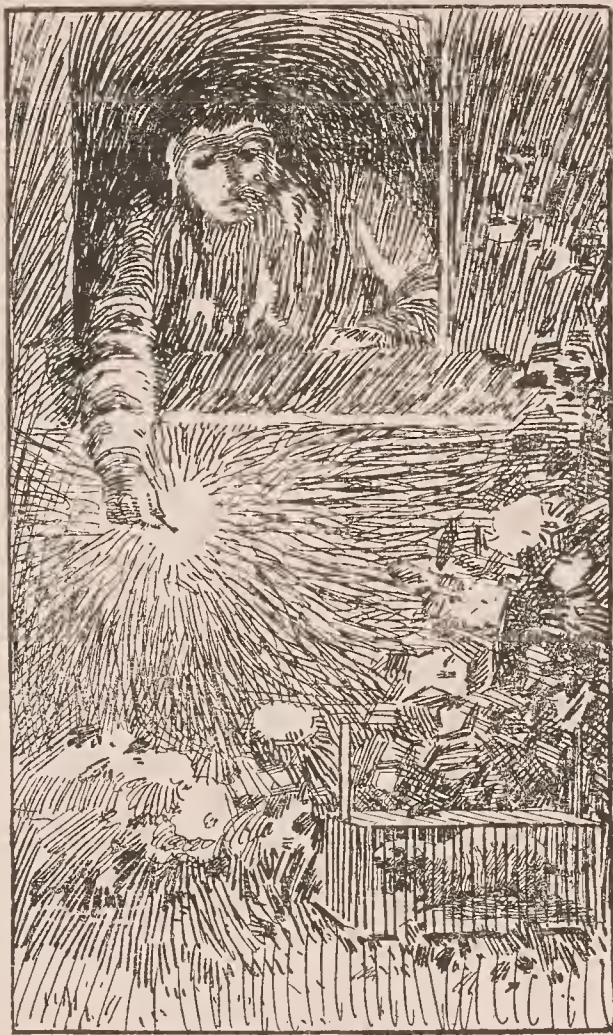
The next morning three bignonias were eaten up and half a yard of the other bitten off.

"Now," said the cook. "war is declared. Isn't there a steel trap anywhere?"

The large boy thought there was. He overhauled the boxes and found it. "Of course," he remarked, "the chipmunks might get in it. They're always running about." But he tied the trap to a stake and set it with what he called "a hair trigger."

In the middle of the night there was a great pounding and squeaking which waked the cook. "There," she cried, "we've got him! I'll see what it is." She struck a match and held it out the window. It was not a chipmunk. It was too large and too white.

She called the large boy. "We've



HE STRUCK A MATCH AND HELD IT OUT OF THE WINDOW

caught the villain! Whatever it is don't let it escape!"

"I'll settle him," was the brisk answer. "Put a light outside the window." So the cook lit a candle and set it on the window shelf.

The large boy did some vigorous pounding himself and went back to bed. "It's a wood rat," he explained. "He'll never trouble us again."

At breakfast the cook gave the chipmunks a whole gem and watched them eat it up.—Rosetta Lunt Sutton in Little Men and Women.

He Was Sensitive.

A benevolent old lady said to a small boy who had recently acquired dignity by going to a boys' school:

"Charlie, shall we come in this shop and buy you a bun?"

"Y-yes," agreed Charlie in a whisper. "But, I say, you won't say the bun's for this little boy, will you?"

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TEN LITTLE SERVANTS.

Ten little servants Johnny has,
That know but to obey,
And to his slightest beck and call
They never answer nay,
And never argue or reply,
Nor vexing questions ask,
But with a good and hearty will
Do their appointed task!

Of different size and different strength,
Yet willing all a true,
And glad to give each other aid
In anything they do.
Five on his right, five on his left,
And each one has his pair,
Which matches them in size and form
Exactly to a hair!

In every duty of the day
Each nobly bears his part,
At school or home, no matter where,
In labor or in art.
And Johnny never speaks his wish,
He only need to think,
And straight his servants do his will
As quick as you could wink!

And should these busy brothers work
A single deed of shame,
Not theirs the fault—you may be sure
That Johnny is to blame;
And so are you in the same case—
All children and all men—
For who has fingers strong and well
Can count his servants ten!
—Brace Baxter.

THE WORM TURNED.

Mr. Hornifex Accumulated Some Information at the Expense of the Grocer.

"Here's your change, Mr. Hornifex. Anything else?"
"I believe not."
"I like to sell you some cheese."
"I don't care much for cheese."
"You'd like this. Here, let me give you a taste of it. How's that?"
"M—m—it isn't bad."
"You bet it isn't. They don't bring that kind of cheese to town every day, I can tell you."
"Still I—"

"Doesn't have any bitter taste, does it?"

"No."

"Doesn't bit the tongue, does it?"

"Not a bit."

"Rich, too, isn't it?"

"Yes, it's rich enough."

"You bet it is. The beauty about this cheese is that it's made by the best dairyman in the state, and it's pure goods. There's no 'filled cheese' about this."

"Got plenty of it?"

"Enough to feed a regiment."

"Is it all like this?"

"Every pound of it."

"Would there be any discount on a whole cheese?"

"Let me see. Naught's naught. Six two's is—yes, I'd throw off 5 cents."

"How much does a whole cheese weigh?"

"Fifty or sixty pounds. These are big cheeses."

"How soon could you deliver it?"

"Inside of two hours."

"Warrant all of it to be like the sample in color?"

"Sure, where will you—"

"This kind of cheese toasts well, does it not?"

"Splendidly."

"Would it make a good Welsh rabbit?"

"Best you ever tasted. Where—"

"Good cheese isn't unwholesome, is it?"

"Unwholesome? people grow fat on it. Look at me."

"I suppose people who don't really care for cheese can learn to like?"

"I should say so."

"Well, if I ever learn to like it I'll buy some of you. Good day."—Chicago Tribune.

He Boiled It Down.

An amusing story is told of the editor of a go-ahead evening newspaper, who in the internal rushing to press to get ahead of the opposition, was constantly impressing upon his reporters the necessity of condensing all news.

A terrible boiler explosion had taken place on board a big ship lying at Portsmouth.

"Get down there as hard as you can," he said to one of his men. If you catch the 11:40 you will be there soon after 2, and you can just wire something for the extra special—but boil it down."

Soon after 3 o'clock that afternoon they got a wire from him:

"Terrible explosion. Melpomene. Boiler empty. Engineer full. Funeral to-morrow. No flowers."

THE DREAM OF THE TOY.

The Sandman lost a dream one night,
A dream meant for a boy;
It floated round awhile, and then
It settled on a Toy.

The toy dreamed that it stood in class
With quite a row of boys;
The teacher rapped upon his desk
And cried, "Less noise! less noise!"

Then, looking at the Toy, he scowled
And said, "Next boy—foretell."
"Oh, please, sir," cried the little Toy,
"I don't know how to spell."

"Indeed, I don't know how it is,
I'm sure I am a toy,
Although I seem to be in class
And dressed up like a boy."

"What's that? What's that?" the
teacher cried—
In awful tones he spoke;

He came with strides across the floor,
And then the Toy awoke.

There lay the nursery very still,
The shelf above its head;
The fire burned dimly on the hearth,
The children were in bed.

There lay the dolls and Noah's Ark.
"Oh, dear me," said the Toy,
"I just had such a dreadful dream!
I dreamed I was a boy."

—Katherine Pyle.

SHE NEVER WAS A BOY.

When I come home the other night
With an ugly lookin' eye
That I had got into a fight
Poor ma commenced to cry,
But when I told pa how it was
He clapped his hands for joy.
And told me I'd done bully, cause
Once he had been a boy.

"Boys will be boys," I heard him say;
"They won't be otherwise,
And the one that learns to fight his
way

Is the one that wins the prize;
When I was his age fightin' was
My greatest earthly joy—"
But ma, she kept on cryin', cause
She never was a boy.

My golly, I'd hate to be
A girl with fluffy hair,
And always prim as A, B, C,
With clothes too clean to wear!
When ma was smat I s'pose she was
Red-cheeked and sweet and coy—
But, oh, the fun that missed her 'cause
She never was a boy.

The oldest horse bones show eight
toes on the fore feet and six on the
hind feet, while splints, like thumbs,
show whither the missing digits have
gone. The next batch of remains,
post-dated a thousand centuries, show
the foot without the splints.

Later specimens again show only
three toes, while the fourth is reduced
to a thumb, or a splint. The next lot
of remains in date order shows the
fourth stump gone, and its place taken
by what was originally the third
toe, and so forth, until we come down
to the foot without a toe, or splint, or
stump.

Feel for a stump just above the off-
side of a horse's hoof, and you may
be able to trace a hard, lumpy sub-
stance.

The hoof did not assume its present
shape till the advent of the post-tertiary
period of the world's existence.
This is the horse as we know him to-
day, when he is rapidly transforming
into electricity and compressed air.

Fame Going to Waste.

"What was your chief impression of
New York?"

"Well, I never before saw a city so
full of unknown celebrities."

When Senator Quay Was a Boy

You have probably seen a great deal
in the papers lately about former
United States Senator Matthew Stan-
ley Quay, or perhaps you have heard
your father talking about him. Here
is a story they tell about the Senator
when he was a boy, which partakes
a good deal more of politics than gen-
erosity. Coming home from a trip,
the father of Senator Quay called him
into the room, and said that he had
brought home with him two presents.
One was for Matthew and one for his
sister, and he was going to give him

his choice. Then he showed him a little Bible and a tin sword, and asked him which he wanted. Matthew promptly said that he wanted the Bible. His father was very much pleased, but also astonished, and asked him why he had made such a choice. Matthew truthfully answered:—"Why, I knew that sister would not want the sword, and if I took the Bible, then I would have them both."

WITH THE GLOVES.

A Rattling Contest as Related in St. Nicholas.

Rupert Hughes' "Dozens from Lak-erim" goes up from Kingston in the September St. Nicholas, to have some friendly indoor contests with the Trojan rivals.

And now the heavy-weight from Troy, one Jaynes, appeared upon the scene with his seconds. There was no roped-off space, but only a collection of mats of the proper dimensions. Jaynes overshadowed little Bobbles as the giants overshadowed Jack the Giant-killer.

Bobbles, while he was diminutive compared with Jaynes, was yet rather tall and wiry for his light weight, and had an unusually long reach for one of his size. And now he was matched to box with a heavy-weight, but it was only for points, and he counted on his agility to save him.

In order to make the scoring of points more vivid and visible to the audience, it was decided, after some hesitation, that the gloves should be coated with shoe-blackening.

Bobbles proved himself an adept at that best of boxing tactics, the ability to dodge. He rarely moved more than would take him sufficiently out of harm's way. A little moving of the head from one side to the other, a quick side step, or an adroit duck, saved him from most of Jaynes' attacks.

There were to be three rounds of three minutes each, with one minute's intermission between rounds. The first round was over before either of the men was much more than well warmed up to the work, and before either had scored an impressive amount of points. Jaynes, however, realized that Bobbles had landed more often than he, and that the sympathy of the audience was with the little fellow. In the swift interchange of blows Bobbles was usually quicker than he. Jaynes' blows were heavier, but Bobbles countered and dodged with remarkable skill; and when, after three spirited rounds, the judges met to discuss the verdict they were to render, and there was some dispute as to the number of blows landed by each, the two men were brought together for inspection. Bobbles' face and neck were as black as a piccaninny's, but there were few dark spots upon his chest. Jaynes, however, was like a leopard, for the blackening on Bobbles' gloves had mottled him all up and down and around. As Jumbo remarked to Sawed-Off: "Bobbles certainly had designs on that big fellow!"

The judges had been agreed that, on the point of defense, guarding, ducking, getting away and counter-hitting, Bobbles, considering his size, was certainly the most speedy of the two. They were also inclined to grant him the greater number of points on his form in general, and especially on account of the disparity in size and reach; but when they counted the tattoo-marks on each, they found that here also Bobbles had made the higher score, and the judges decided to award him the prize.

RIDING THE BELLS.

The Terrifying Performance of the Bell Ringers of Seville.

The ringing of a bell is not, as a rule, a performance peculiarly trying to the nerves, but there is one set of bell ringers the members of which must know no fear, for a moment of tremor would in all probability be for them the moment of death. They are the bell ringers of the Giralda, in Seville.

When the city is to make merry on high days, the ringers climb to the belfry, and then by the aid of a rope and steps cut in the wall of the tower each mounts to the bell he is to ring and stands astride the shoulder of the brazen monster. Then he presses the bell with his feet, holding on to the cross-piece upon which the mass of metal is swung.

Gradually the great bell sways to the muscular movement of the man astride it until it acquires a momentum that swings the hammer first gently and then with increasing force as the sweep of the bell widens, until the air is trembling from the giant blows on the massive sides of the monster.

The mere vibration of the atmosphere as the huge bell rings out would be enough to make an unpracticed ringer turn dizzy and fall from his perch. But this is not all, for it is not one, but many, bells that are ringing in the belfry at the same time in obedience to the movements of their riders, and the clang and din are deafening.

Notwithstanding all, however, the riders bend and rise and fall with the action of the bells, now appearing to the observer from below to be in a perfectly horizontal position as the bell reaches to an upright position as the monster sways backward with another thundering noise.

The most terrifying part of the daring performance is the sight of a bell ringer calmly swaying the bell while it hangs far out of the belfry over the city, for the outward swing sends the counterpoise, with the ringer, into the space beyond the arch, and one can see the ringers astride their brazen mounts borne far out into space.

Johnny's Reason.

Teacher—Johnny, write upon the blackboard the sentence, "Two heads are better than one." Now, Johnny, do you believe that?

Johnny—Yes'm.

Teacher—Why?

Johnny—'Cause then you'll git a job in a dime museum an make lots o' money.

Sun Storms.

The connection between the aurora, sun spots and magnetic disturbances has never been explained, but many observations have shown that it definitely exists. The outbreak of a cyclonic storm on the sun with the formation of spots is immediately registered in every magnetic observatory on the earth. Sometimes the disturbance of terrestrial conditions is very marked.

For example, on Feb. 13, 1892, a great spot, accompanied by enormous cyclonic disturbances, burst forth on the sun's surface. That night a mag-

nificent aurora was visible all over the northern half of the United States and in many parts of Europe. Telegraphing was carried on between New York and Albany without batteries, so strong were the earth currents. The telegraph system of Sweden was completely paralyzed, and in Russia much difficulty was experienced with the telegraph lines. At the Kew observatory in England the magnetic needle swung two degrees out of its normal position.

All this has furnished physicists and astronomers a fruitful field for study, and a vast mass of observations has been accumulated, but so far no satisfactory explanation of the mysterious bond of sympathy between solar and terrestrial influences has been forthcoming, nor does any one yet know the true nature of the aurora.

O'Connell and the Tipperary Boys.

At Tipperary, brave Tipperary, they wanted to take the horses from O'Connell's carriage and draw him themselves upon his way. "This will never do," he said to his daughter-in-law. "Their intentions are excellent, but they'll get so excited that we'll find ourselves in the ditch presently."

Bursting open the carriage door, in a moment he was out among these gigantic Tipperary men, just as big as any one of them. "Now, boys, be reasonable," he said. "Leave the horses under the carriage."

"But, shure, we'd rather pull you along ourselves, sir," was the reply as the preparations for so doing went gallantly forward.

"All right; on your own heads be it!" cried O'Connell good humoredly, and, throwing off his coat, he set to with pugilistic intent, boxing them right and left until he got them to desist. Their amusement and delight knew no bounds, and when, on regaining the carriage, he doubled up his hand and shook it at them, with a beaming smile and a twinkling eye, the air was rent with enthusiastic shouting, and he drove off even a greater hero than when he had come.—Donahoe's Magazine.

Too Honest.

A lawyer took in a new boy the other day, and, as he had suffered to some extent from the depredations of the former one, he determined to try the new boy's honesty at once. He therefore placed a \$5 note under a weight on his desk and walked out without a word. Upon his return, half an hour later, the note was gone, and half a dollar in silver had taken its place.

"Boy, when I went out I left \$5 under this weight."

"Yes, sir, but you hadn't been gone five minutes when a man came in with a bill against you for \$4.50. I guess the change is correct?"

"You paid the bill?"

"Yes, sir. There it is, all receipted. The man said it had slipped your mind for the past four years, and so"—

He did not get any further before he made a rush for the door. That boy is not in the law business any more.—Chicago News.

STORY OF A DOLL.

How a Little Girl Learned the Lesson of "Holding on Tight."

When I was a little girl, mamma gave me a large doll. This new dolly was very pretty, for she had round, rosy cheeks, bright blue eyes and black curly hair, of course make believe hair, for she had a china head and a kid body.

My dolly when mamma gave her to me was dressed in a gown of lovely blue silk and a cunning white apron trimmed with lace, and upon her feet were some little black kid shoes, or "ankle ties." Oh, how I loved dear, pretty dolly!

I could not think of a name nice enough for my precious china baby until one Saturday afternoon, when school did not keep, mamma took me to a "show" where I saw some "little people," pretty little dwarf people. I well remember Tom Thumb and Lavinia Warren, a tiny grown up man and a tiny grown up woman not much larger than good sized dolls. On the way home I said, "Oh, mamma, I am going to name my dolly Lavinia Warren!"

Near the house where I lived when a little girl there was a stone wall, and I loved to go out there with Lavinia in my arms and climb up and sit on the wall and look off at the fields of green grass and watch the little birds hopping about in the trees and gaze up at the broad blue sky beyond the treetops.

I was a very little girl, you know, and mamma often told me I was careless and forgetful, therefore I must have been naughty sometimes and not have tried to remember to "hold on tight" to anything I had in my hands.

I know you will say, "How could you have been so forgetful?" when I tell you that one day I dropped poor Lavinia Warren upon the wall, and her pretty pink face, with her blue eyes and black curly hair, was "smashed" on the stones. Oh, how I cried! I ran to mamma crying and sobbing. "Lavinia Warren's broke!"

Mamma took me in her lap and said: "Don't cry, my little girl! Crying won't mend Lavinia's head." And then she took me by the hand and went with me to the spot where headless Lavinia was lying. Her dear little kid arms and her little upturned feet and her pretty face all scattered about her caused me to cry more than ever. I shall never forget that sight!

Mamma bought me another dolly, but this new one had a wooden head. I was fond of her. Still, I never loved her as I did dear Lavinia Warren. But I have always remembered since that sad mishap to "hold on tight." Mamma said I would not forget again, and I have not.—Little Folks.

Long Armed Animals.

Orang outangs (the name means "wild man of the woods") have arms so long that they can touch the ground with the tips of their fingers when standing quite upright. This no doubt has been brought about to some extent by the creatures living for countless ages in trees and being thus compelled constantly to use their upper limbs in getting about.

An interesting fact bearing upon the

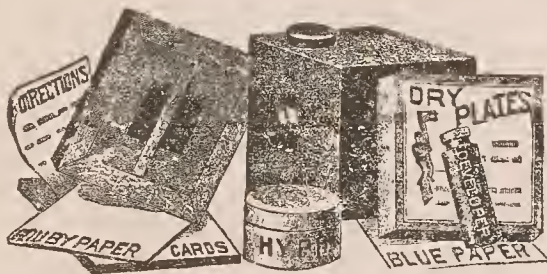
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point is that, man for man, sailors have longer arms than soldiers, because they have to use these limbs more in climbing, rope hauling and other kinds of exercise which bring them prominently into play and thus strengthen and lengthen them.

The Poor of Ireland.

In many parts of Ireland the peasants are very poor indeed and live in mud cabins, which they often share with the pigs and poultry. These latter give them much of the necessities of life, and the pig is spoken of as "the gentleman that pays the rent." Barefooted are most of the children and young girls, like the one in our picture.



AN IRISH PEASANT GIRL.

With a very damp and rainy climate, the staple food of the Irish peasantry—namely, potatoes—often get the disease and are unfit for human food. When

this is the case, there is always great danger of famine in the land, which has no natural resources to fall back upon. The peat which is cut from the numerous bogs around serves the poor for fuel. Meat, except pork, is almost an unknown luxury among them.—Chatterbox.

A Whip and a Horse.

"Here she comes!" said Georgie happily to himself. "Won't she be pleased?"

He watched a little vegetable cart driven by an old woman coming slowly along the lane outside the garden gate. A new whip had been given him, and he had just been wishing for an elephant or a crocodile to come along. Then he remembered how slowly Mrs. Brown's pony walked and thought it would be a kindness to her if he gave it a smart touch up.

So out from behind a bush popped Georgie and gave a lash to the pony, which made a sudden jerk that upset Mrs. Brown among her cabbages and then stood still.

Then Georgie was frightened, and his father ran out to assist the old woman back to her seat, crying sternly:

"How dare you, sir? What mischief is this?"

"I didn't mean to upset her, father," sobbed Georgie. "I thought she couldn't make him go and would be pleased."

"Bless you, sir," said good Mrs. Brown. "don't scold him. I ain't hurt. You gave him a whip and forgot to give him a wooden horse," she added, laughing, as the old pony walked on.

That afternoon Georgie's mother took him to Mrs. Brown's cottage to beg her pardon, and they left a very nice parcel for the old woman.

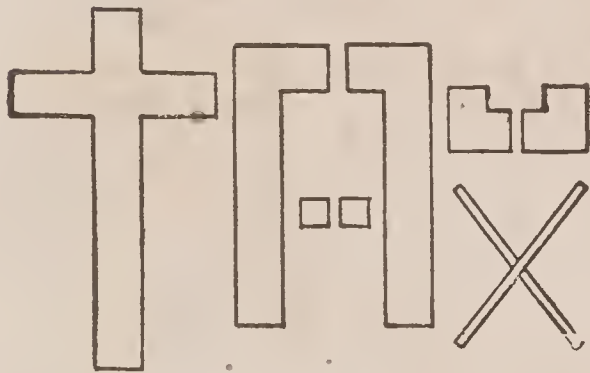
And the very next week Georgie got his wooden horse.

THE PUZZLER

No. 384.—Decapitation.

'T's not in college that the knowledge
Most useful is unfurled,
But in the striving, pushing, driving,
Of the busy world.
'Tis roughest rigor that gives vigor
To the unflinching soul.
And turmoil and strife and broil,
What's useful most we **WHOLE**.
So, boy, be brave and **LAST** and save,
On some high purpose bent.
No knowing what may be your lot.
You may be president.

No. 385.—A Pretty Scissors Puzzle.



How can a perfect cross and all the other forms here shown be cut out of a single piece of paper with one cut of the scissors?

No. 386.—Double Acrostic.

The first of a long line of kings—
Six kingdoms into one he brings,
And so they still continue.
In every fight he leads the front,
Marshals his men and bears the brunt
By dint of bone and sinew.

In time his grandson fills his place,
The noblest scion of his race,
A king well known in story.
Devotion to his country's cause,
Most wise and necessary laws,
Have crowned his name with glory.

A treasure city in the east
Where Median kings held court and feast
With pomp and ostentation—
"The seven walled town," historians said,
But ruthless wars such havoc made
It lies in desolation.

A sea bird that frequents the rocks,
Sometimes in pairs, sometimes in flocks,
In diving power excelling.
He strews a nest; he rears his young
The bleak and barren cliffs among,
Remote from human dwelling.

A very ancient epic song
Remaining in the Frisian tongue
That formed the English diction.
The hero's deeds, the good he wrought,
Are told with true, poetic thought
In allegoric fiction.

The chosen fair, when many strove
To win the mighty monarch's love
And be his queen instated.
She warned the king of plots concealed,
And would be murderers, thus revealed,
Their treason expiated.

A rapid river, rushing down
From mountains that the snow wreaths
Crown,
The fertile vales commanding.
It gathers in its downward course,
Increasing speed, increasing force,
Till to a lake expanding.

A harmless creature, much maligned,
Held in abhorrence by mankind
Ere ignorance was enlightened.
Its shape no sign of beauty shows
And may a shudder cause in those
Who, seeing it, are frightened.

No. 387.—Transposition.

A **TOTAL** is a gift to prize
As much as aught beneath the skies.
The **SECOND** of a faithful **ALL**
Should never deem the treasure small,
But hold it dear and faithful be
To thy good **ALL** as he to thee.

STAMPS ON APPROVAL.

Our new series of non-duplicating approval-books is the best thing that was ever gotten out for the buyer. Each book contains 240 stamps all different. Twelve books are now ready and others will be announced from time to time. Our special discount of 50 per cent applies to the entire series, and big bargains are found on every page.

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Send us your name and address on a postal card, mentioning this paper, and we will send you a complete descriptive circular, including statement of our rules and all necessary information. Or send us a first-class commercial reference from a bank or business house of known rating in your locality and we will start you out at once with the first book.

If you have at any time had stamps on approval from this company, it will only be necessary for you to refer to your record and state your desire to reopen your account.

This series of books has been prepared at immense expense and every collector should take advantage of the excellent opportunity afforded by our liberal discount and careful pricing.

C. H. Mekeel Stamp & Publishing Co.

Rooms 603-4-5 Century Bldg,
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

No. 383.—Boxes and Boxes.

Here's a great pile of boxes of every kind.
The **FIRST** one you may in the alphabet find;
The **SECOND** to guess you must delve in a mine;
The **THIRD** makes you sneeze, be it ever so fine;
The doctors will give you the **FOURTH** if you're ill;
The **FIFTH** splutters terribly, do what you will;
Jolly darkies, with airs, for the **SIXTH** often walk;
You yourself are the **SEVENTH** when too much you talk;
A crowd of musicians the **EIGHTH** join to make;
The **NINTH**, when indoors, from your head you must take;
When the cock makes mince pies, she **TENTH** must not spare;
When near the **ELEVENTH** you come, have a care;
The **TWELFTH** oft is precious, is sparkling, is bright,
And to the **THIRTEENTH** listen all with delight;
The **LAST** you will need just as long as you live,
And right clever you are when these answers you give.

No. 389.—Three Word Squares.

A small quadruped. A stir. A city of Italy. A town of Bohemia.
A measure. An open space. Repose. A fruit.
A piece of meat. A fish. Gumbo. The sharp end or top of anything.

No. 390.—Numerical Enigma.

I am composed of 20 letters and form the title of a well known book.
My 7, 2, 15, 4, 16, 6, is insignificant. My 11, 13, 14, is sport. My 1, 19, 9, 17, is knowledge. My 18, 12, 20, is a beam. My 3, 8, 5, 10, is related.

No. 391.—Anagrams.

(Useful in the dining room.)
1. Richest pie C—. 2. Blot wet tears.
3. Bard Rand put stale beet. 4. R. S. Lochs died of her puns. 5. P. T. B. man's equal. 6. Ted learn pins. 7. A red scent. 8. Tugs or nags. 9. Jack's peril. 10. Turks even bit.

Familiar Comparisons.

As hot as an oven, as cold as a frog;
As gay as a lark, as sick as a dog;
As slow as a tortoise, as swift as the wind;
As true as the gospel, as false as mankind;
As thin as a herring, as fat as a pig;
As proud as a peacock, as blithe as a grig;
As savage as tigers, as mild as a dove;
As stiff as a poker, as limp as a glove;
As blind as a bat, as deaf as a post;
As cool as a cucumber, as warm as toast.

Key to the Puzzler.

No. 376.—A Crossword: January.
No. 377.—Transpositions: Linked, Kin-
dle.
No. 378.—Single Acrostic: Initials:
Aristides. 1. A-cre. 2. R-onulus. 3. I-s-
land. 4. S-alic. 5. T-ime. 6. I-nkermann.
7. D-ollar. 8. E-migrant. 9. S-age.
No. 379.—Numerical Enigma: Con-
science. 1. Scene. 2. Nice. 3. Nine. 4.
Cone. 5. Ice. 6. Seine. 7. Once.
No. 380. Illustrated Diagonal: 1. Crab.
2. Boat. 3. Boot. 4. Duck. Diagonal
—Cook.
No. 381.—Anagrams—(British Battles):
1. Barnet. 2. Naseby. 3. Bosworth. 4.
Marston Moor. 5. Evesham. 6. Hastings.
7. Boyne.
No. 382.—Charades: 1. Cam-el. 2. Hor-
net. 3. Jew-el. 4. Rat-tan.
No. 383.—Divided Cities: 1. Arch-angel.
2. Liver-pool. 3. Ham-burg. 4. Can-ton.
5. My-sore.

An Extraordinary Spell.

In an English court on one occasion an old gentleman, a Mr. Wood, was examined as a witness. Upon giving his name, "Ottiwel Wood," the judge, addressing the reverend person, said:
"Pray, Mr. Wood, how do you spell your name?"

The old gentleman replied:
"O double T, I double U, E double L, double U, double O D."

Upon which the astonished lawgiver laid down his pen, saying it was the most extraordinary name he had ever met with in his life and after two or three attempts declared he was unable to record it.

A Suggestive Epitaph.

You may rest here ere passing on,
This much I will allow.
In life I oft was sat upon
And do not mind it now.
—New York Press.

"Knogood tells me you won some money from him last night," said the man with the shrieking shirt.

"Nipe," said the man with the whispering tie; "I merely won a few bets from him."

"Oh!"—Indianapolis Press.

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TAYLOR STAMP CO.,
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STAMPS. 121 var. 10c. Agents 50 p.c. Chas. Harris, 7 Chadwick St., Worcester, Mass.

Mention the REALM when answering adv



THE Scott Stamp and Coin Co. have published the following information concerning the 1901 album which is now ready for the press and will be placed on the market on or before November 15th. "Our experience with the 1899 edition" they write, "has proven to us that the lines which we follow therein are popular and meet with the approval of the vast majority of collectors."

"We realized a long time ago that albums were growing so bulky, that in time, the younger collectors would become discouraged by the vast number of spaces which they should strive to fill with the appropriate specimens. In 1897 we attempted to meet this growing objection by issuing a special album, from which all varieties of color and watermark were eliminated, but we found that this radical step did not meet with favor, as collectors desired an album that was complete in every particular, while not waiving their objections to so cumbersome a volume."

"Our last edition consisted of over 600 pages and, while preparing the earlier portion of the manuscript for the projected new edition, we found that, unless we made some change in our policy, the new book would consist of between 725 and 750 pages, and we feared that it would be the cause of great discouragement to the majority of those who collate their treasures in printed albums. We thought of various schemes for the simplification of the book, but not one of them was feasible, since the general character of the work, as our experience has proven, had to be maintained."

"However, we had realized, for some time past, that the collection of cut-square envelopes and wrappers had been materially on the decrease, and hundreds upon hundreds of those who purchased albums from us had expressed a desire for a book with the spaces for these specimens eliminated. After ripe reflection and consideration, we decided that the only method by which the size of the book could be reduced, without depriving collectors of proper space for all stamps that properly belong in their albums, was by the elimination of these cut-square envelopes and wrappers, making it an album of adhesive stamps alone. In this way we are able to maintain the character of the work, in so far as all adhesives are concerned, and at some later period we shall probably issue a separate volume for envelopes and wrappers. This, however, is a question for future consideration, and we are unable at this moment to give any definite promise that we shall publish such a work."

"It is, of course, impossible, in preparing a stamp album to meet the wants of the general collector, and to be absolutely consistent in any particular, to be compiling the pages for the different countries we have used our best judgment as to the inclusion and exclusion of varieties. In some cases different types of surcharge will be given, whereas in others they will be omitted, and the same will apply to variations in color, our general rule, however, being to admit such variations

only where there is a very striking or marked difference, or else where there is a great difference in the value. In response to the desires expressed by many purchasers of our albums, we have provided spaces for all the issues of Shanghai, as well as for all stamps of British India surcharged for use in the various States. The album will be printed from entirely new plates, so that, typographically, it will be superior to anything that we have attempted for a number of years past, and we feel certain that it will meet the wants of the majority of those who collect in that manner."

"After eliminating the cut-square foreign envelopes and wrappers, the book, including the envelopes, telegraph stamps and revenue stamps of the U. S., will contain between 620 and 640 pages, and the question of size will soon again arise. We have nearly reached the end of the present century and we may find it advisable, in the fall of 1901, to complete the present edition by adding all stamps issued up to the end of 1900, thus providing an album which contains spaces for all adhesive stamps issued in the 19th century."

The 20th century could then be provided for by a supplement, which in a few years would grow to such a size as to form quite a ponderous volume. Even if this step be not taken at once, it will become an absolute necessity in three or four years, and it is likely that we shall definitely decide upon the policy which we have here indicated."

Since the subject of albums is always an interesting one to the collector, and the changes in the forthcoming edition of the International are of a most radical type, we concluded it would be well to give practically the full text of the publishers' announcement, despite its great length."

TWO Guatemalan stamps are being printed in new colors, the 1c now appearing in green, and the 6c in light green, the design in both cases remaining the same. Changes in other values will follow.

The frequency with which new issues appear from the Indian native states has led several leading stamp publications to discontinue the chronicling of any specimens from India except those authorized by the British government.

The 2c U. S. postal card for foreign use is now printed in black instead of blue.

According to Sec. 86 of the Canadian post-office act, cuts of postage stamps cannot be used for illustrative purposes without permission of the postmaster general. Although several philatelic publications have applied to the above authority, no permission has been given them at the present writing to use cuts, but the postmaster general has promised to make regulations at once in favor of Canadian stamp papers.

Countries engaged in war have a better chance of getting rid of their surplus stock of stamps to collectors than those countries which are of a more peaceful disposition. Chinese stamps are the latest to become popular in the eyes of the philatelist, and the sale of both local and national issues has been enormous during the past month.

It is a fact that the 12c stamp of Hawaii to the number of 50,000 has fallen into the hands of speculators who have invested about \$6,000 in this lot of stuff. Philatelists, however, think that the speculation will prove a

failure as the entire lot had to be bought up to get control of the market, and the sales will consequently have to be very great to exceed the amount invested.

A 2c postage rate between England and the U. S. has been proposed by J. H. Heaton the British postal reformer.

Never before has there been such a demand for Australian stamps. In some cases dealers are asking for certain Victorian stamps of recent value more than catalogue price.

Natal stamps have been seen surcharged by the Boers Z. A. R.

Only 23 varieties of the 1c green surcharged with the name of issuing postoffice have been found in the mails thus far. Ten cities, it appears, have surcharged higher values. Boston leads with 6 varieties, Milwaukee and Racine, Wis. follow with 4 each, Minneapolis and St. Paul come next with 3 each, and Lynn, Mass. with 2. It is surprising that New York and most of the other large cities are not found on the list.

It is reported that a number of the cardboard proofs of U. S. stamps sent to the Paris Exposition have been stolen from the collection, but that the thief has been traced to London where it is hoped he will be apprehended.

The philatelist John N. Luff is revising for publication in book form his history of the postage stamps of the U. S. which has been appearing for some time in short installments in The American Journal of Philately.

It is now expected that the federation of the Australian colonies will take place during the present year, and that all issues of Australian stamps except those of New Zealand will become obsolete as soon as one general issue is prepared to take the place of the various issues now used in the several colonies.

To show that the present issue 2c cancelled stamps have no market value, a large lot was sold recently in Chicago at the rate of about 350 for 1c. We may add that present issue 2c Canadians are worth but little more, although collectors persist in sending them to dealers, expecting the latter to make large cash offers on the same.

The government printing bureau is preparing some 200,000 private proprietary stamps for Meyer Bros. Drug Co., the design being a lion. About 11 million private stamps have been printed by this department, under the War Act of '98, the largest shipment having been sent to Chas. Fletcher who received 4½ millions.

A native of Australia has published the most complete catalogue of Australian stamps to be found anywhere, the work filling 50 pages illustrated with nearly 150 cuts of the various colonial issues.

Now that the new one dollar documentary stamp has appeared we may expect to see the higher dollar values printed in the new shades as soon as the present supply is used up.

We have procured an illustration of the 3s carmine Japanese wedding stamp fully described by us last month. The size is about 1 by 1¼ inches from perforation to perforation, making a much larger stamp than represented by the reduced engraving.



Another stamp worth reproducing is the lowest value of the attractive new set of stamps for the island of Crete. In Grecian characters, this name appears at the top, and the coin, "drakme," at the bottom of the stamp.

Oiled paper is now used between the sheets of stamps in the stamp booklets in place of parafine paper, to prevent the gum from sticking to the interleaved sheet.



THE MARKET.

WE continue our series of articles on the prices paid by dealers for used postage stamps by giving a list of Canadian and some other foreign stamps which are salable to-day, placing such value on the stamps as we feel sure are obtainable, overlooking the fact that some dealers might give more for certain specimens they were particularly in need of.

CANADA



1859 1c pink 1.00
 — 5c beaver 1.00
 1868. 3c red, large65



1869-93 1/2c black25
 1 and 2c 1 1/2c
 3c red01
 6c brown35
 8c slate25



1897. Jubilee 1c35
 2c50
 3c25
 5c 1.25

1897. Four maple leaves.
 1/2c25
 1c, 3c04
 2c10
 5c40
 8c70

1898. Two maple leaves.
 1/2c black12
 2c purple06
 3c carmine04
 1900 2c carmine 1/2c



2c map stamp25

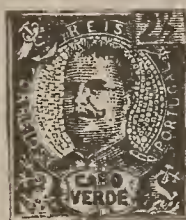
Registration 2c and 5c 25



1898 10c special delivery 50
 CAPE OF GOOD HOPE
 Asst 10



1900 1p 12
 CAPE VERDE



Asst 25 to 50
 CEYLON
 1886 5c violet 10

CHILE



1854 5c red 15
 1873-94 1c, 2c, 5c red 10
 — 5c blue04

CHINA



Asst 80



Asst 25c to 5.00

COLUMBIAN REPUB.

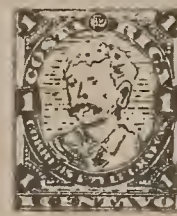
Asst 12c to 50

CONGO



Asst 70

COSTA RICA



Asst 25

CUBA



Asst 12c to 50
 Revenues asst 20



1398 asst 25c to 50

CURACAO

Asst 30c to 60

DANISH W. INDIES



Asst 30

DENMARK



40, 80 1/2c
 Asst 1c to 25

DOMINICAN REPUB.



Asst 35c to 50

DUTCH INDIES

Asst 12c to 35

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To introduce our juvenile magazine, premiums and novelties, we have decided to give away several thousand packages of **Free Samples**, one package to each person who writes immediately for the same.

Read the instructions below and note contents of each free package, as follows:

100 Foreign Stamps, Japan, etc.

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Together with all the following:

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4 sample Blank Approval Sheets.

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2 Illustrated Price-Lists of stamps, premiums, etc.

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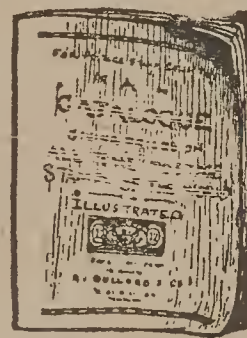


Directions for obtaining the foregoing Free Samples:

One package of the above samples is free to each person who fills out the annexed coupon and sends with it only eight cents (coin or stamps) for a three-month's trial subscription to our large, illustrated paper **The Youth's Realm**, and also two 2c stamps to help pay postage and wrapping of samples and papers. This is **all necessary** to receive the above.

If you want the 10 books advertised elsewhere and **these samples also**, send 35c for a year's subscription to our paper, and send the two 2c stamps extra for postage, as above, and we will mail everything advertised in two separate parcels. Present subscribers must extend their subscriptions to receive the free gifts, stating what month last subscription began.

Don't forget the two 2c stamps. Cut out the coupon now!



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Town

State

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Mar. 6, 1900.

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